

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226331

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 226331 TOSEC 270030 ACTION SECRETARY

13 SEP 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226331 TOSEC 270030

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, VN

SUBJECT: VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP IN THE UN

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM HABIB

1. ON PRESIDENT'S INSTRUCTION, GOVERNOR SCRANTON AT NOON TODAY TOLD PRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD VETO VIETNAM'S UN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BECAUSE THE SRV FAILED TO MEET THE UN CHARTER'S MEMBERSHIP TESTS ON HUMANITARIAN AND PEACE-LOVING GROUNDS.

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2. LATE THIS AFTERNOON, AMBASSADOR SHERER LEARNED FROM THE FRENCH CHARGE IN NEW YORK OF THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS:

-- VIETNAMESE AND FRENCH HAD GOTTEN TOGETHER IN PARIS AND

AGREED TO SEEK POSTPONEMENT OF THE SRV MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION UNTIL NOVEMBER;

-- VIETNAMESE MISSION IN NEW YORK WAS ADVISED OF THIS
AGREEMENT BY TELEPHONE FROM THE MISSION IN PARIS.

3. BEFORE CALLING THE COUNCIL'S PRESIDENT TO REQUEST

POSTPONEMENT, THE FRENCH NOTIFIED USUN AND ASKED FOR
OUR REACTION. AFTER CHECKING WITH SCOWCROFT, HABIB
AUTHORIZED SHERER TO RESPOND THAT US HAS NO OBJECTION
TO FRENCH GOING AHEAD TO CONVEY TO THE SC PRESIDENT
FRANCE'S REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT. USUN WAS TOLD TO
TELL FRENCH THAT OUR COMMENT SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED
AS INVOLVING ANY FUTURE COMMITMENT ON OUR PART.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE FRENCH CHARGE TOLD SHERER HE GOT
IN TOUCH WITH THE LIBYAN PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.
THE LIBYAN HAS CALLED FOR CONSULTATIONS ON SEPTEMBER 14
IN LIEU OF COUNCIL MEETING. AT THAT TIME, HE WILL ASK
FOR AGREEMENT TO POSTPONEMENT SINE DIE. WE WILL CONCUR.
WE UNDERSTAND FROM FRENCH THAT SRV HAS INFORMED THE
SOVIETS AND CHINESE OF THEIR AGREEMENT TO POSTPONEMENT.
THE LIBYANS TOLD THE FRENCH THAT NEITHER THE CHINESE
NOR THE SOVIETS OFFERED COMMENTS.

5. ASSUMING POSTPONEMENT IS ACHIEVED, WE INTEND
ADOPTING A PRESS LINE AS FOLLOWS:

-- WE CONCURRED IN THE POSTPONEMENT, AS DID OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL;

-- WE DO NOT KNOW WHEN THE MATTER WILL AGAIN BE
CONSIDERED BY THE COUNCIL;

-- (IF ASKED) AS TO OUR FUTURE VOTE, WE WILL CONSIDER
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THAT WHEN THE TIME COMES. OUR DECISION WILL BE BASED
UPON OUR JUDGEMENT REGARDING VIETNAMESE QUALIFICATIONS
FOR MEMBERSHIP.

ROBINSON
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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